GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:425
ANSWERED ON:28.02.2008
ADULTERATION OF PETROL AND DIESEL
Sharma Shri Madan Lal

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether petrol pump owners throughout the country particularly in the capital are indulging in adulteration of petrol and diesel in connivance with the oil companies;

(b) if so, the facts and details in this regard;

(c) the number of petrol pumps selling adulterated petrol, identified so far, State-wise during the last three years;

(d) the number of guilty persons against whom action has been initiated during the last three years till date, State-wise;

(e) whether the Government have taken any steps to break the nexus between oil companies and petrol pump owners; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS (SHRI DINSHA PATEL)

(a) & (b): The possibility of adulteration of petrol/diesel by some unscrupulous elements cannot be ruled out due to huge price difference between petrol/diesel and various adulterants available in the market and the easy miscibility of these products with petrol/diesel. Government is not aware of any nexus of petrol pump owners and officials of Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs). OMCs have also reported that they have no established case of involvement of their officers in adulteration cases.
However, there are provisions under the Conduct Discipline and Appeal Rules of respective OMCs as also the Marketing Discipline Guidelines (MDG), 2005, to take action against officers found involved in irregularities/ malpractices, including adulteration.

(c) & (d): State-wise details of suspected cases of adulteration of petrol & diesel and number of retail outlets terminated due to adulteration by OMCs during the last three years is at Annex.

(e) & (f): Does not arise, in view of reply to parts (a) & (b) above.